

Fall 8-15-2003

ENG 1001G-014: Composition and Language

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Recommended Citation

Sylvia, Richard, "ENG 1001G-014: Composition and Language" (2003). *Fall 2003*. 15.
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014

English 1001G - ~~032~~: Composition and Language
 TR 9:30 – 10:45; CH 3130/3120
 Fall 2003

Professor Richard Sylvia
 Office: Coleman 3775
 Office Hours: TR 8:30 – 9:30 am; MWF (to be announced); and by appt.
 Phone: 581-6292; 351-1731
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Course Description, Design, and Goals: English 1001G is a course in expository writing designed to improve your critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. To that end, you will complete five essay assignments (each of which I explain in detail in a separate handout). We will also read and discuss several essays on a variety of topics from the *The Bedford Reader*, in order to stimulate our thinking about issues relevant to the writing assignments.

In the computer classroom (CH 3120), where we will meet every other week, your time will be spent composing, revising your essays, or helping classmates in your work group to revise their work. When we are in the regular classroom (CH 3130), we will discuss assigned readings, the current writing assignment, and issues of writing competency.

The goal throughout the semester is for you to produce writing that develops purposefully and economically. This is not an easy task for anyone. Consistent effort in revision – and in helping members of your work group to revise – is the best guarantee of success.

Texts: *The Bedford Reader*
The Blair Handbook

Requirements:

- 1) completion of five essays (minimum 750 words each), two of which require use of secondary printed sources
- 2) participation in class discussions of the assigned readings from *The Bedford Reader*
- 3) participation in your work group on a regular basis
- 4) attendance at all scheduled conferences

(You must complete successfully **all** the work listed above to pass the course.)

Grading: the five essays will count for 90% of your grade; class participation will count for the remaining 10%. I will grade each essay on a 100 point scale and your final grade on a 100 point scale (A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = 0-59).

Course Policies: I do not accept late papers without a valid excuse. If you have a problem completing an assignment, speak to me before it is due. Sometimes even a brief conversation can clear up difficulties.

Conferences and classroom workshops are required. Though I do not have an attendance policy, I will mark down your essay if you do not participate in workshops, and you cannot earn the 10% for class participation without attending class regularly.

Missing a scheduled conference with me without excuse means an automatic F for the current essay assignment.

Though essay drafts and completed essays must be produced on a 3 1/2 inch floppy disk, I will collect and read hard copy. (The computer classroom is equipped with two laser printers.) Double space and leave a one-inch margin on all sides. Do not use a font larger than 12.

There is no mid-term or final for this course. You will have clear indication from the beginning, however, of your performance in the course since I will grade each essay within a week of submission.

This is a writing-centered course. You may submit an essay from the class for your EWP. For more information, visit the assessment website: <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess>.

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

English Department Statement on Plagiarism: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism – 'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own original work' (Random House Dictionary) – has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

Computer Classroom Policies (CH 3120)

The class will meet in the computer classroom alternating weeks. On all dates marked with *, we will meet in the computer classroom.

Neither food nor drink is allowed in the computer classroom.

You must come to computer classroom meetings with your own floppy disks.

Never save your work to the C: drive; save your work to the folder with your name, which you will make at our first computer classroom meeting in the work folder in the course folder under my name on the desktop:
(Sylvia/1001G/work/yourname/youressay).

Remember: work saved in yourname folder can be altered by anyone who has access to the computer classroom. **Make sure you always save your work to a floppy disk before you leave the computer classroom.**

Always save your work in Rich Text Format (RTF), so that you can access it easily if you are using a different version of Word on your own computer.

You must come to computer class meetings prepared to work on your current project and use computer time productively. I don't mind if you make a quick check of your email, but spending computer time in chat rooms or web browsing is not allowed, unless it is essential to your current writing project.

Tentative Schedule:

Aug. 26: course introduction

Aug. 28: essay assignment #1 distributed; *Bedford Reader*, "Reading Critically" (9-31); "Fish Cheeks" (92-94)

*Sept. 2: essay #1 draft due; computer workshop

*Sept. 4: essay #1 due; computer workshop

Sept. 9: *Bedford Reader*, "Remembering My Childhood on the Continent of Africa" (234-241)

Sept. 11: *Bedford*, "Everyday Use" (255-264); essay #2 distributed

*Sept. 16: essay #2 draft due; computer workshop

*Sept. 18: essay #2 due; computer workshop

Sept. 23, 25: essay assign. #3 distributed; **scheduled conferences** – no class meeting

*Sept. 30: essay draft #3 due; computer workshop

*Oct. 2: essay #3 due; computer workshop

Oct. 7: *Bedford*, “But What Do You Mean?” (372-381); essay assign. #4

Oct. 9: *Bedford*, “Edward Hopper’s Nighthawks, 1942” (165-171)

*Oct. 14: essay #4 draft due; computer workshop

*Oct. 16: essay #4 due; computer workshop

Oct. 21: *Bedford*, “The Equity of Inequality” (481-485)

Oct. 23: *Bedford*, “On Compassion” (183-187); essay assign. #5

*Oct. 28: essay draft #5 due; computer workshop

*Oct. 30: essay #5 due; computer workshop

Nov. 4, 6: **scheduled conferences** – no class meeting

*Nov. 11: essay #1-5 revision for resubmission; computer workshop

*Nov. 13: essay #1-5 revision for resubmission; computer workshop

Nov. 18: *Bedford*, “The Ways We Lie” (389-398)

Nov. 20: *Bedford*, “The World of Doublespeak” (399-408)

Nov. 25, 27: Thanksgiving Break

*Dec. 2: essay #1-5 revision for resubmission and/or Electronic Writing Portfolio

*Dec. 4: essay #1-5 revision for resubmission and/or Electronic Writing Portfolio

Dec. 9, 11: **scheduled conferences** – no class meeting